

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 145309

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ORIGIN NEA-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-01 /004 R

66604

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:DLJAMESON

APPROVED BY NEA/AFN:WSWEISLOGEL

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R 201651Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 145309

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC FROM VIENNA 12 JUN 75:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 5086

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARTHUR HARTMAN FROM AMBASSADOR
BUCHANAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, LY, AU

SUBJECT: LYBIAN AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE CONCERNING US-LYBIAN
RELATIONS

1. AT PHILIPPINE NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION TODAY, I WAS
APPROACHED BY LYBIAN AMBASSADOR EZZEDIN AL-GHADAMSI WHO
WAS ANXIOUS THAT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION REACH HIGH
LEVEL AUTHORITIES IN WASHINGTON:

2. ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO A MEMBER OF THE LYBIAN REVOLUTIONARY
COUNCIL WHO IS ALSO THE MINISTER OF PLANNING TOLD AL-
GHADAMSI THAT SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL WERE IN FAVOR
OF IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES BUT WERE
RUNNING INTO STIFF OPPOSITION FROM A VOCIFEROUS PRO-
SOVIET UNION GROUP. THE MINISTER SAID THAT SOME GESTURE
ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES WOULD GREATLY ASSIST HIM
AND HIS FACTION OF THE COUNCIL IN CONVINCING QUADAFI THAT
IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES WAS IN THE LYBIAN
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PAGE 02 STATE 145309

NATIONAL INTEREST. HE SAID THAT QUADAFI WAS TILTING IN

THAT DIRECTION HAVING ALREADY CHOSEN AN AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON AND NEEDED ONLY A QUOTE LITTLE SOMETHING UNQUOTE TO MAKE FURTHER OVERTURES.

3. AL-GHADAMSI REPORTED THAT THE GESTURE THE MINISTER HAD IN MIND WAS USG APPROVAL FOR THE RELEASE OF QUOTE SOME NINE OR TEN CARGO PLANES WHICH WERE STILL SITTING ON AN AIRFIELD SOMEWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES EVEN THOUGH THE LYBIAN GOVERNMENT HAD PAID FOR THEM OVER TEN MONTHS AGO UNQUOTE.

4. COMMENT: I HAVE NO WAY OF EVALUATING THE ABOVE AND PASS IT ON FOR WHAT ITS WORTH. AL-GHADAMSI, WHO IS ALWAYS MOST CORDIAL AND FRIENDLY TOWARDS AMERICANS APPEARED UNUSUALLY SERIOUS IN CONVEYING THE ABOVE INFORMATION AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT I WOULD SOON PROVIDE HIM WITH AN ANSWER FOR HIS MINISTER.

5. I WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON WHAT TO SAY TO THE GOOD AMBASSADOR AT OUR NEXT ENCOUNTER. BUCHANAN UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, SALES, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE145309
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DLJAMESON
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750216-0863
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750629/aaaabamf.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <22 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LYBIAN AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE CONCERNING US-LYBIAN RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, US, LY, AU
To: TRIPOLI
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006